

Bee Campus OSU

Maggie Long, Delia Randolph, Meggie Nafziger, and Jacob Miller



INTRODUCTION

Pollinators are key players in vital ecosystem services, global biodiversity, and our world's food supply. Insects, and particularly honey bees, are primary pollinators for most agricultural crops and wild plants, contributing roughly \$500 billion a year to global food production and \$15-\$20 billion dollars annually worth of services in the U.S alone¹. Clear evidence points to regional declines in honey bee stocks over the past 40 years due to a complex set of dynamics including habitat loss, pesticide use and climate change. More recently, there has been calls to action both nationally and internationally to address this global threat. Bee Campus USA is one of these initiatives.

BEE CAMPUS USA

Mission statement: "To foster ongoing dialogue to raise awareness of the role pollinators play in our communities and what each of us can do to provide them with healthy habitat"

Bee Campus USA enforces 7 criteria for Universities to achieve in order to become a certified Bee Campus:

1. Establish a Committee and Develop a habitat plan
2. Host awareness events
3. Sponsor and track student service learning projects
4. Offer Pollinator focused courses/workshops
5. Post educational signage for campus and community
6. Maintain a web presence to share Bee Campus news
7. Annually apply for renewal



Research Objectives

- Obtain a survey sample representative of the entire University population
- Gauge respondents interest and knowledge on sustainability initiatives and pollinator declines and advocacy across campus
- **Gauge respondents willingness to financially support the Bee Campus initiative through the diversion of mandatory student fees**
- Use our data to create a conclusive response and recommendations regarding OSU becoming Bee Campus certified

METHODS

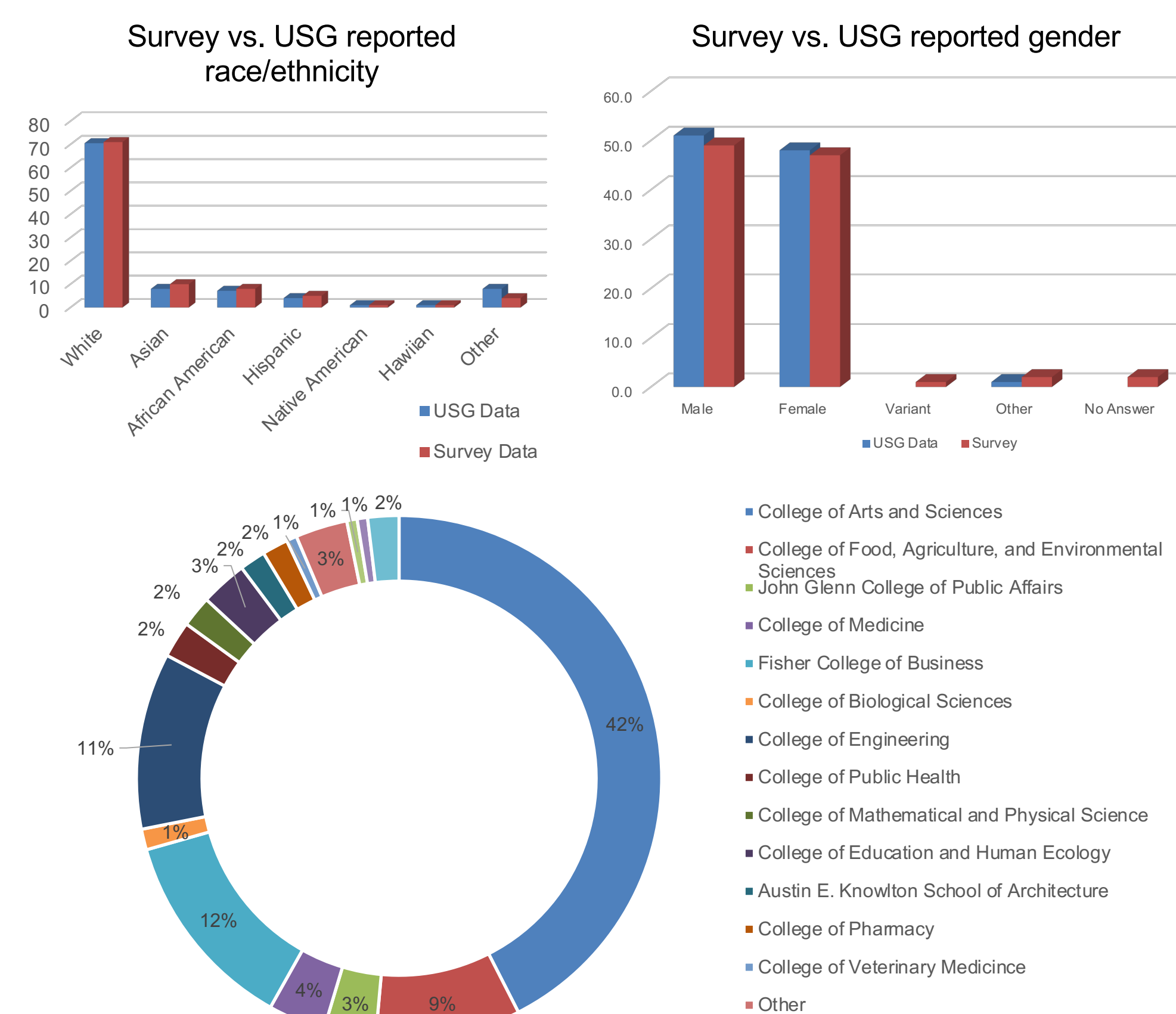
- 41 question survey administered through Qualtrics
- Surveyed at central locations across main campus where students from all colleges, years, ethnicities, and backgrounds frequent
- Questions identified respondents affiliation with OSU and their current knowledge and interest on pollinator sustainability initiatives across campus
- Questions asked how students would vote on a one time fee of \$5, \$10, and \$20 that would assist OSU in becoming Bee Campus certified
- Surveyed 316 individuals over the course of 2 weeks and 41 hours

Survey participants outside of the RPAC



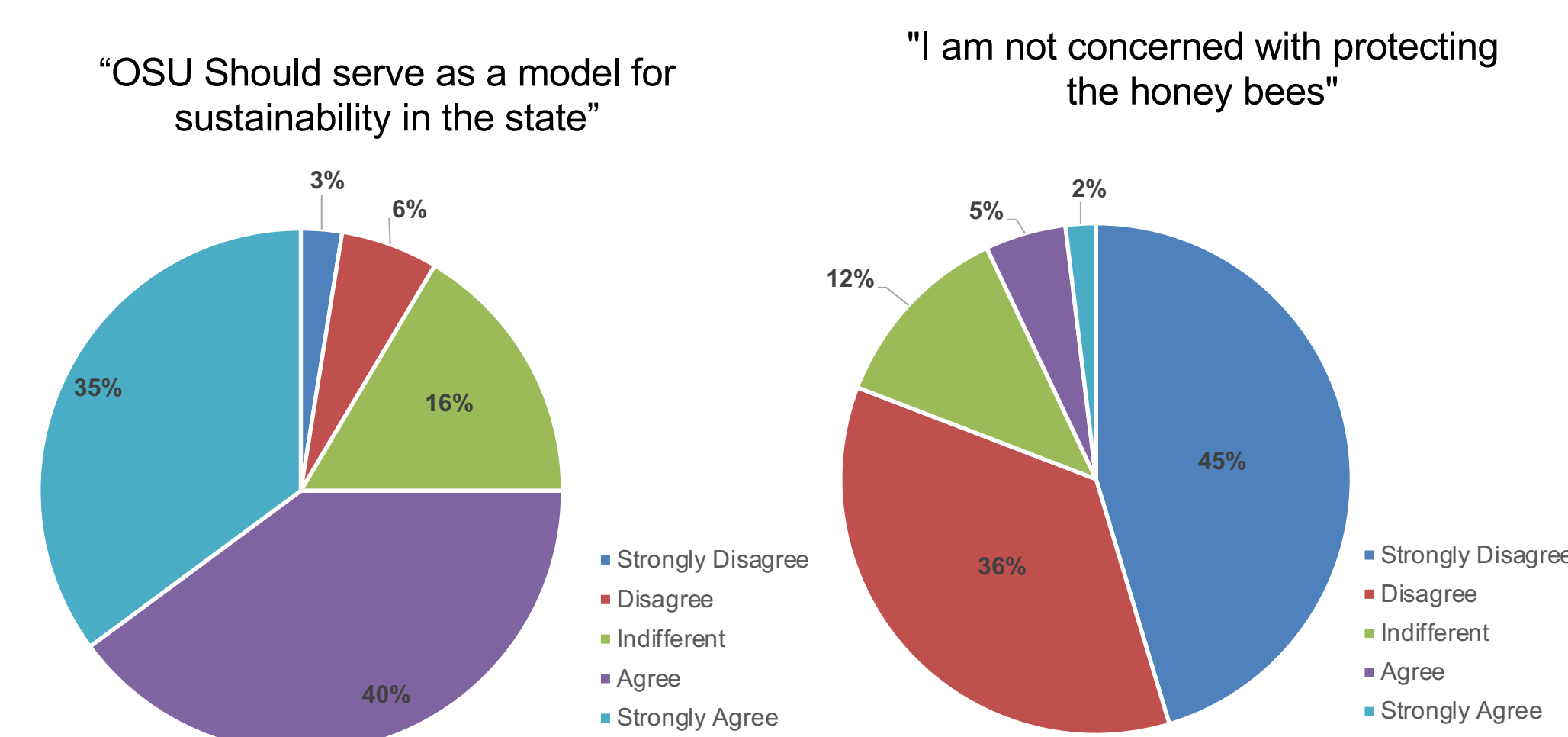
RESULTS

Respondents Demographics and College Affiliation

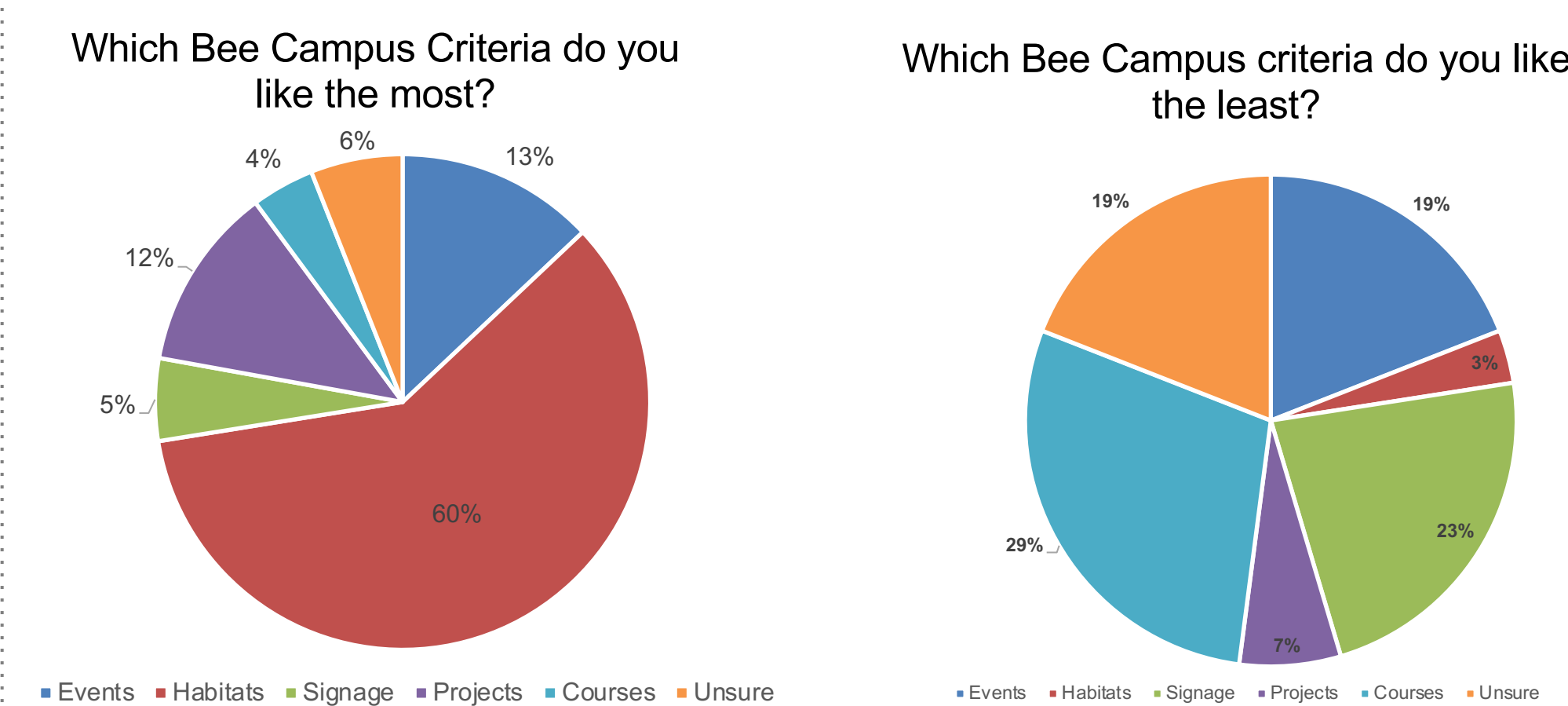


RESULTS CONTINUED

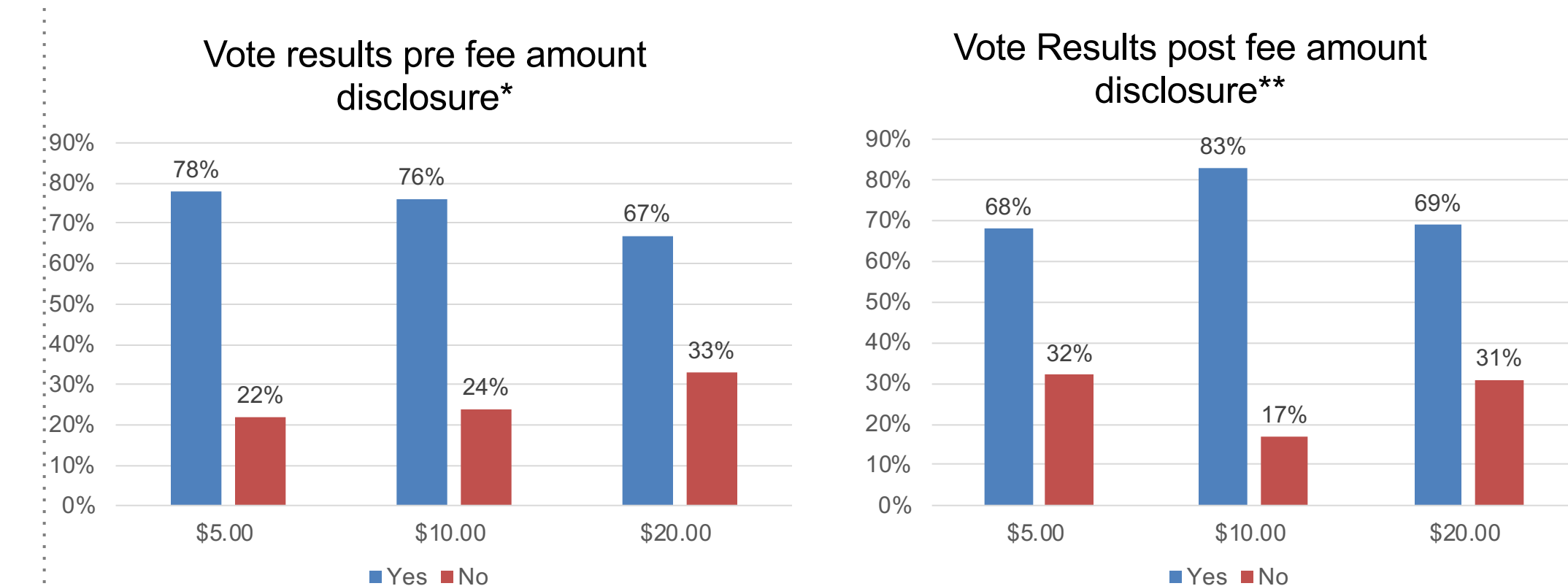
Sustainability and Pollinator interest results



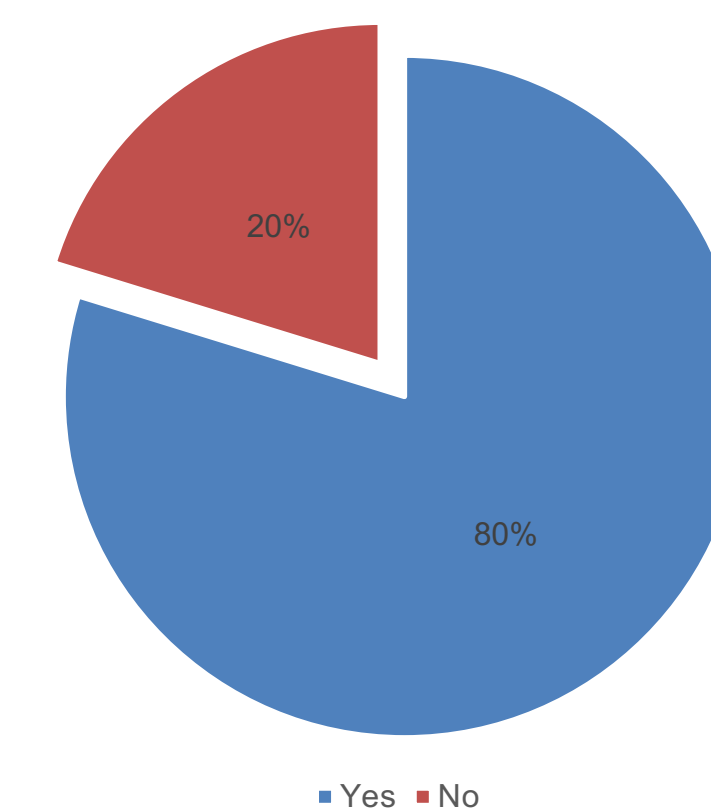
Bee Campus criteria



Vote results for one time additional fees added to tuition



\$0 to become Bee Campus**



*Respondents were presented these questions before ever being disclosed the amount of mandatory fees they pay each semester

**Respondents were informed that they pay an average of \$864.80 every semester before answering the following questions

***If respondents answered no to any of the previous ** questions, they were given the scenario of an outside source funding OSU's costs of becoming a Bee Campus

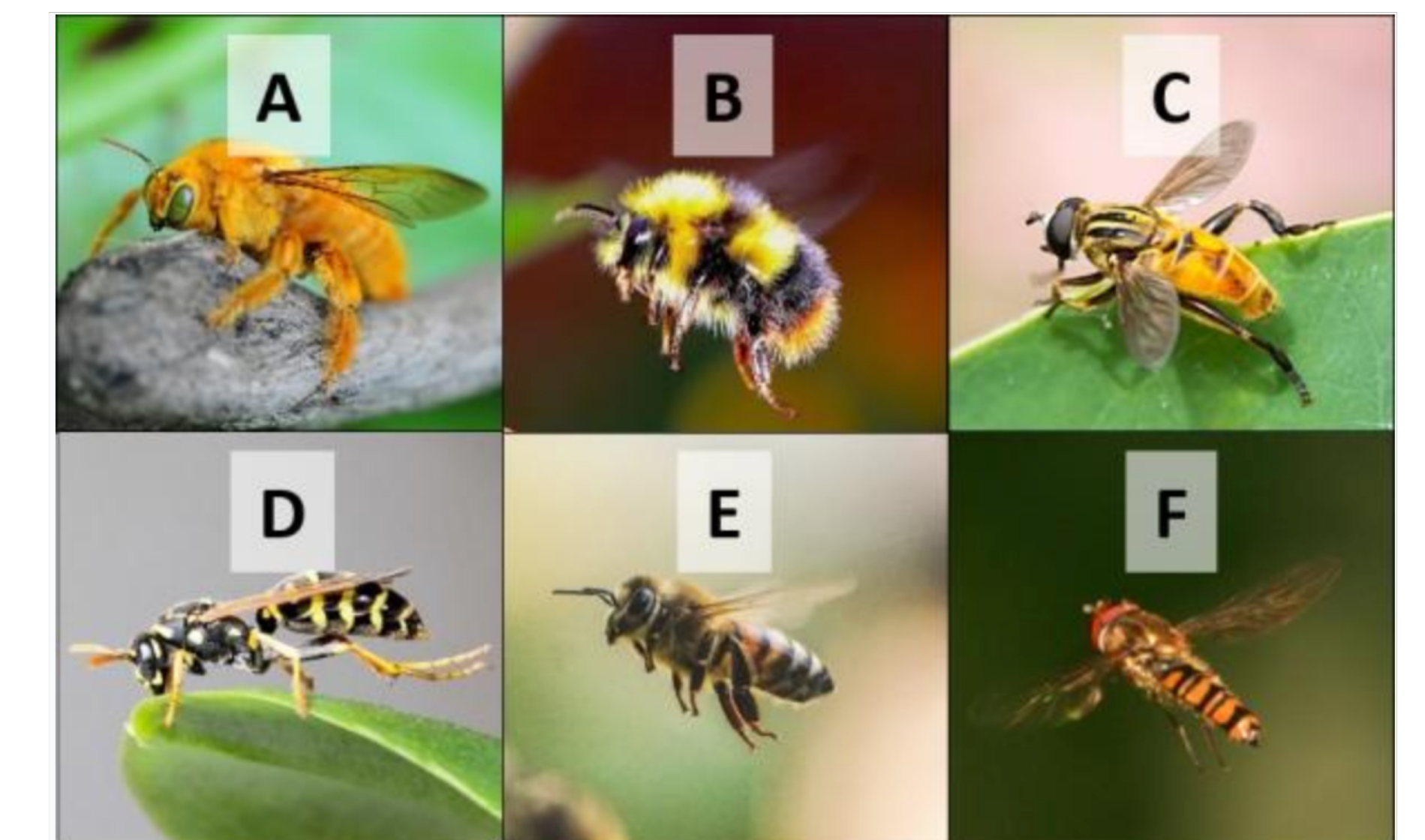
CONCLUSIONS

- High levels of concern for pollinator decline and high willingness to support
- Lack of knowledge in identifying pollinators
- Most believe OSU should serve as a model for sustainability
- Interest for pollinator gardens and habitat creation
- Majority of students are willing to contribute \$5, \$10, and \$20 of student fees before and after learning how much they are paying for student fees in total

RECOMMENDATIONS

Ohio State and future capstone students should proceed with steps in becoming a Bee Campus

- More information about pollinators, their threats and Bee Campus USA should be given to students
- Campaigning for Bee Campus to attract more students
- Use survey results to support the claim that students would like to contribute a portion of student fees
- Utilize current OSU resources: Bee Lab, Department of Entomology, student sustainability organizations



Can you correctly identify the Honey Bee?

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Potts, S., et al. (2010) Global Pollinator Declines: Trends, Impacts, and Drivers. *Trends in Ecology and Evolution*, 25(6)
- 2017-2018 demographic reports. Undergraduate Student Government. *The Ohio State University*
- Bee Campus USA logo ad criteria. *Bee Campus USA*.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Big thanks to Dr. Wuyang Hu, Professor Myra Moss, and Dr. Jarred Penn for their help and guidance throughout this project. Also, thank you to all of the students who participated in the survey!

